

NewsRelease

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HOLLYWOOD ACTRESS, VALERIE HARPER, TO VISIT NASA

Best known for her role as "Rhoda" on *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*, Valerie Harper will visit NASA's Langley Research Center on March 24, while on tour of the Charles Busch play, *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife*, at Chrysler Hall, Norfolk. During her visit, Harper will tour a variety of Langley facilities and give a special talk to employees.

Media Opportunity: An opportunity to see some of the facilities at NASA Langley that Ms. Harper will be touring is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Monday, March 24. Media who wish to attend should contact Kimberly Land at (757) 864-9885 or 344-8611 (mobile).

Harper's visit is part of a growing interest she has for what NASA is doing to inspire the next generation of explorers. In the past year, she has been introduced to a variety of NASA educational initiatives that enhance math and science skills in children of all ages.

The four-time Emmy-award winner first achieved fame as Rhoda Morgenstern on *The Mary Tyler Moore Show* and her spin-off series *Rhoda*. During her nine years as the character, she was honored with a Golden Globe Award, Harvard University's Hasty Pudding Woman of the Year Award, Hollywood Women's Press Club "Golden Apple" Award, and a Photoplay Gold Medal Award.

In 2000, Harper reprised the role of Rhoda Morgenstern along with Mary Tyler Moore for an ABC television movie titled "Mary and Rhoda" that drew more than 17 million viewers. In 1987, she was seen as "Valerie Hogan" in the then titled NBC series "Valerie." She also starred in the 1990 CBS series "City" and in the 1994 CBS series "The Office."

In addition to her acting career, Harper also works with Save the Children, AFRICARE, OXFAM, RESULTS and actively supports women's rights issues as an advisory board member for The Rape Foundation.

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